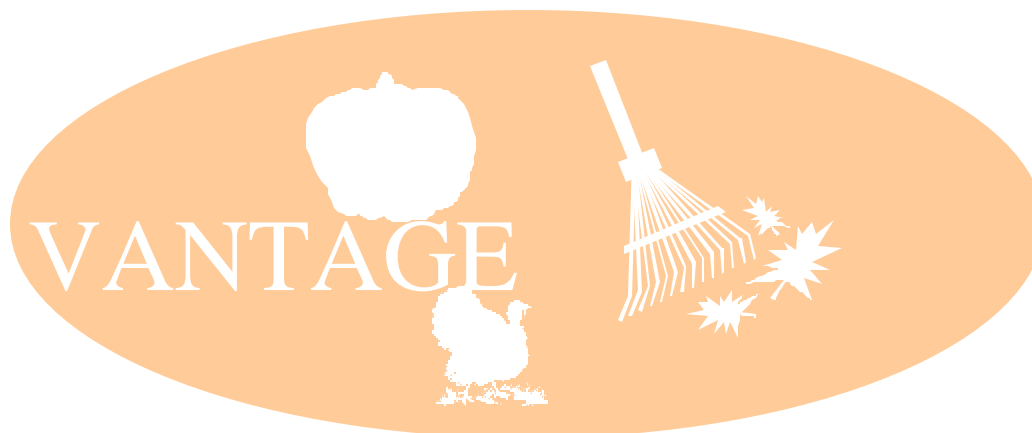


# U.S. Department of the Interior

## Bureau of Land Management, Eastern States



FALL 2001

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### Wonderful Outdoor World Receives DOI's 2001 Environmental Achievement Award!

*By Marcella Davis, Program Specialist, Eastern States Office of Environmental Education Outreach*

**T**he Washington D.C. Wonderful Outdoor World (WOW) Program was recently selected as a recipient of the Department of the Interior's Environmental Achievement Award for 2001. The award was given for our involvement in introducing urban youth to camping and environmental stewardship themes.

The ceremony was held at the Main Interior Building in Washington, D.C. on September 20, 2001, where Executive Director Charles Bush for D.C. WOW and Eastern States' Program Advisor for Environmental Education Outreach, accepted the award on behalf of all our partners.

The D.C. WOW Program is the first and only eastern metropolitan area to gain certification for this unique, environmental education initiative. Conceived as a western-oriented program, WOW has been successfully imported to the East by a partnership of Federal, municipal, and not-for-profit agencies. Its goal is to unveil the magic and mysteries of the natural environment to urban youth, ages 8 to 12 years old, through an enjoyable and educational camping experience. D.C. WOW's unique achievement is having demonstrated that it is possible to bridge the urban-nature gap in a manner that leaves youth with lessons that are both useful and relevant to their everyday lives and environments.



Photo by Ron Fox

**Secretary of Interior Gale Norton observes instruction given by Program Specialist Marcella Davis and Environmental Educator Theresa Jefferson for the "Leave No Trace" activity to children at "The Great Outdoors Week 2001" event held in Washington, D.C.**

Now in its 3rd year, D.C. WOW has reached over 5,000 mostly city-bound youth, with its array of community camp outs, special activities and events, and community-based programming. By inspiring our youth with BLM's mission message of land management with camp activities, we can also instill a growing awareness of youth stewardship throughout the greater Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

*Guardians of the Past — Stewards for the Future  
... sustaining the public lands in the 31 States east of and bordering on the Mississippi River.*



## State Director's Message



In thinking about our Eastern States' activities, I am struck by how important partnerships are to us and how they enable us to increase and enrich the services we provide. Our partnerships are extensive and range from our cooperative management agreement for Jupiter Inlet in Florida to the work we are doing with the Michigan Lighthouse Project.

Partnering with Federal Agencies such as the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service at America's Outdoors enables us to deliver seamless public lands service and information to our public, no matter which agency is represented. Additionally, partnerships with our regional mustang troop provides us with invaluable support at wild horse and burro adoptions across the East and also provides ongoing local assistance to new adopters. And finally, partnerships with other agencies and local groups helps to conduct environmental education programs that introduce youth to the environment and to develop the future stewards of the public lands.

As we move forward with our new land management projects in Virginia and Maryland, we will call upon our current partners and build new relationships with others. In Virginia, we will continue to work closely with Fairfax County, the Commonwealth, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority and expand our collaboration to include other community, environmental and educational interests. We expect a similar pattern in Maryland, where we are already working closely with the State of Maryland, Charles County, and the local community.

Partnerships with other land management agencies impact how we offer public resources for managing Federal minerals. In August, we hosted a meeting with the U.S. Forest Service Region 8 and 9 managers and staff to discuss how we could work more effectively together, especially in meeting our mineral management responsibilities. The meeting was highly successful, and we identified a number of changes which should make planning and leasing more efficient while continuing to be environmentally responsible.

In addition to partnering, we are increasing our emphasis involving the public we serve more in our decisionmaking process. We conducted a Community Collaboration Workshop in Maryland last spring, met with the public in Arkansas in August to discuss the future of Arkansas lands, and held community meetings to discuss oil and gas leasing in the State of New York.

In conclusion, I want to recognize the Jackson Interagency Hotshot Crew for all their hard work this fire season, especially for their contributions in Nevada and Montana. Thanks for a job well done!

**Gayle F. Gordon**  
Eastern States, Director

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Cover: WOW Receives DOI's 2001  
Environmental Education Award!



## Former Associate State Director Gwen Mason Receives Meritorious Service Award

By Peggy Riek, Writer-Editor, Eastern States

Photo by Cathy Rodine



Pictured (left to right) are Grace Mason (Gwen's daughter), Gwen Mason, Eastern States Director Gayle Gordon, and former Eastern States Director Hord Tipton at the Meritorious Service Award Ceremony.

Former Eastern States (ES) Associate State Director Gwen Mason was honored at a ceremony at the Eastern States Office in July 2001,

in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the Bureau of Land Management and the Department of the Interior as a dedicated public servant and administrator.

Gwen wrote the following thank you note to all Eastern States' employees:

**Dear Eastern States' gang:**

*Thank you so very much for the wonderful reception and ceremony. I so enjoyed seeing everyone there. (Though I missed the off-dutyers and in-a-meetings, too). The food and decorations were A+, and it was good to see everyone in fine shape.*

*It was an honor to serve as your ASD, and I will stay proud of all that you have accomplished and will continue to accomplish.*

*Best wishes for the remainder of the summer, and for the days ahead of you in BLM's best State Office.*  
**Fondly, Gwen**

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## Federal Government Makes Plans to Acquire Land in Fairfax County

By Cathy Rodine, Public Affairs Specialist, Eastern States

BLM-Eastern States has released a proposed plan to acquire 800+ acres of land known as Meadowood Farm, which is located in the Mason Neck area of Fairfax County in Virginia. The transaction would bring to fruition a lengthy, complicated effort which began in 1999, involving the General Services Administration, the BLM, the County of Fairfax, Pulte Development Corporation, and a private landowner.

The Acquisition Plan is one of the first steps in the Agency's planning process, where the future management of Meadowood Farm by BLM is addressed through a separate planning process with interested parties using a collaborative approach. This planning process has already begun with the widely-attended public meeting held this past May 16, 2001.

"If we acquire the property, I want to know more about the community's vision and concerns and



Photo by Jinx Fox

Meadowood Farm is located in the Mason Neck area of Fairfax County, Virginia.

would bring these to the table during the activity planning phase of this process," said Gayle Gordon, BLM's Eastern States Director who would have responsibility for the management of the property.





## Wonderful Outdoor World Wins Award of Excellence

*By Derrick Crandall, American Recreation Coalition, and Marcella Davis, Program Specialist,  
Office of Environmental Education Outreach*

The Wonderful Outdoor World (WOW) Program has been honored with the Award of Excellence in the 2001 Associations Advance America (AAA) Awards Program, which was sponsored by the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE).

Now in its 11th year, the AAA awards recognize associations and industry partners that advance American society through innovative programs in education, skills training, standard setting, business and social innovation, knowledge creation, citizenship, and community service.

The American Recreation Coalition (ARC), a major sponsor, submitted an entry on behalf of WOW in April under the category of Civic and Community Volunteer Activities. WOW was one of 21 winners chosen from 188 entries. As an Award of Excellence winner, WOW will automatically be entered into consideration for the Summit Award, ASAE's highest association honor.

We can be proud of the recognition that the WOW Program continues to receive and the impact that it is having on the lives of our nation's youth.

## Jackson Hotshots Anticipate a Permanent Home

*By Shayne Banks, Public Affairs Specialist, Jackson Field Office*

Even though the Jackson Interagency Hotshot Crew has been with the Jackson Field Office for several years, they have not had any place to call home. Currently, the Jackson Field Office is working with the State of Mississippi's Forestry Commission to build a Southeast Regional Fire Training Facility at the Commission's site located in Pearl, Mississippi. The site would be the base of operations and would provide office space, dormitory rooms, parking, and storage space for the Crew.

Once completed, the Training Center will be used by personnel with the BLM, State Forestry and USDA-Forest Service, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to provide multi-agency, fire-related training on a regional basis.

We anticipate that the training center will strengthen and promote firefighter safety and survivability with special



Photo by Clay Moore

**BLM Hotshot Crew Leaders Lamar Liddell and Fred Ashford (center to right) meet with U.S. Forest Service personnel to determine the plan of action for a fire.**

emphasis on the protection of life, property, and natural and cultural resources.

## General Land Office Kudos — Words From Our Customers

"Thank you for such a useful and easy to use Web Site! I don't mind paying my Federal Taxes for such a good use. Cordially,  
(Clark Forrest)

"I am in your land records site now. What a great site!!! This site is a gold mine for genealogists. Thank you for making all this available." (J. Mitchell)

"Thank you, Cheryl (Washington), so much for your help. I had no trouble at all finding the land patent once I knew how to proceed. It is a wonder to me, not only that the BLM has all these records, but has them accessible on the Internet for public viewing. Many, many thanks! (Mary Helen Wachob)



## Remembering Felton Searcy...

*By Myra Musialkiewicz, Branch Chief, Tony Mayfield, Management Analyst, and Vanessa Felder, Procurement Specialist, Organization Services, Eastern States*

**M**ay 1997 – first day – new job at BLM!! Felton Searcy walks in the door – in meticulously pressed black slacks, starched white shirt with tie, suspenders, and polished black shoes so shiny they could be mirrors — all to go to work in the mail/supply area of the State Office at Eastern States. And, after working for the Department of Defense, so began a 4-year period of personal career advancement for Felton and, for others, a period of friendship with, and service from, a hard-working, dedicated, and courageous professional.

On July 16, 2001, when word of Felton's passing spread throughout Eastern States and BLM, a state of shock was pervasive. But slowly, we started to remember, and there are many special things to remember.

Perhaps chief among them is that Felton made the world a little smaller because, with his helping hand, listening ear and loving heart, he brought people together — whether in BLM or other government agencies, vendors and building managers with whom he did business, or simply people in neighborhood eating places. Even on the most hectic of days or if he was having a bad day, when asked if he was busy, he would respond, "Not too busy for my customer!" And everyone was his "customer." When Felton was not in the office, even for a day, the questions would inevitably come, "Where is Felton?" "How's Felton?" "When's Felton coming back?"

Felton took great pride in his work, no matter what the task. He believed in doing things right, in a neat and organized fashion, and it didn't matter if he had to "take on" the State Director or anyone else to get things done. By the manner in which he tried to take care of us and the building in which we worked, you would think



Photo by Jinx Fox

(From left to right) Close friends and co-workers, Eastern States Management Analyst Tony Mayfield and Procurement Specialist Vanessa Felder, take a break for a photo session with Property Specialist Felton Searcy on a sunny day in front of the State Office.

that he owned and ran the place! His morning walk-throughs became a tradition — checking on the building and the people in it. And if someone was particularly troublesome for him, his approach was simple — "Kill 'em with kindness!"

And then there were those events that were made even more special by Felton's touch. He had a flair for these events. Many recall the Black History Programs, others when Eastern States hosted the Field Committee, still others recall holiday times, or just his presence for bagels in the break room. Whatever the occasion, it was Felton's presence and preparations that made them a time to remember.

While Felton said his work at Eastern States was rewarding and that BLM-Eastern States "had the best people in the business," it was he who was the source of inspiration for so many, as he brought that special touch of class to everything, and everyone he touched.

### Employee Scene

(July 1, 2001, through September 2001)

**New Employees** — Cheryl Hansen, Land Surveyor and Stephen Hansen, Surveying Technician, Cadastral Survey, from BLM's Phoenix Field Office in Arizona. Dena Saslaw, Sociologist, on a 60-day detail from BLM's Colorado State Office to Eastern States' Division of Resource Planning, Use, and Protection.

**Resignations** — Gwen Mason, Associate State Director, Eastern States; Michelle Alley, Surveying Aide, Cadastral Survey.

## A Friend and Co-worker is Recognized!

*By Chris Hanson, Assistant Field Manager, Milwaukee Field Office*

It was a wet, drizzly evening with the fog threatening to come ashore along the banks of Lake Superior. In fact, it was the kind of weather that Whitefish Point became the first light station to be built on the Lake in 1861. But on July 28, 2001, we gathered to recognize former Milwaukee Field Office Realty Specialist Larry Johnson with a ceremony at the Whitefish Point Lighthouse and Shipwreck Museum to dedicate a plaque to Larry in honor of his role in the transfer of lighthouse properties from the U.S. Government — Whitefish Point Light Station to the Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society, St. Helena Island to the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keeper's Association, and Presque Isle to Presque Township.

In attendance were Larry's wife, Julie, and children, Jared and Kristin Johnson, and Jim and Sherry Dryden, Chris and Terri Hanson, and Sylvia Jordan from the Milwaukee Field Office. Members from the Shipwreck Society and the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keeper's Association were also present to acknowledge Larry's efforts in the complex transfer of the lighthouse properties in recent years.

Special events at the ceremony included an excellent reception hosted by Shipwreck Society volunteers, followed by a history lesson and storytelling by lighthouse keepers at the Whitefish Point Lighthouse, and an impromptu serenade by one of the Museum's staff, who played an antique pump organ similar to those played by lighthouse keepers' families in the past.

Larry was instrumental in recognizing the scope and importance of BLM in the transfer of these Great Lakes' maritime treasures. He was also a founding member of the Michigan Lighthouse Project, which is now the foundation of a multi-agency approach to ensuring the timely transfer of all Michigan lighthouses being excessed by the U.S. Coast Guard.

Larry will be remembered as a quiet-mannered and dedicated employee who cared deeply about many of the public resources and for whom the lighthouses of the Great Lakes became a passion. We thank him for his dedication, hard work, and his help in focusing the BLM on the efforts needed to save lighthouses as part of our maritime heritage.



Photo by Sylvia Jordan

(From left to right) Larry Johnson's family, Jared, his wife Julie, and Kristin, share a moment together to show off a plaque presented to them at a ceremony in honor of Larry's role in the transfer of the Whitefish Point Lighthouse in Michigan.

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## Learning Public Relations — First-Hand

*By Michelle Alvarez, Public Affairs Assistant, External Affairs*

Having interned with the Department of the Interior's BLM Eastern States Office for the past two summers, I have been able to experience many opportunities that other college interns might not have been exposed to. From the first day of work, I felt that I was really doing "first-hand" work in the business of public relations (PR).

At the BLM Eastern States Office, I have learned more than I ever would have in any college classroom. It still brings a smile to my face as I remember sitting in my PR class during the spring semester at Penn State University, listening as my professor taught very important things we should know in order

to go anywhere in the PR field. As he continued to speak, I was saying "check, check, check..." as I had already accomplished 90 percent of what he was saying in just one summer with the BLM.

While working for Eastern States, I always felt that I was a part of team and had my own responsibilities to uphold. I spent my second summer working on the Wild Horse & Burro Program — planning for media trips, writing press releases, and promotions for the program.

Through this exciting experience, I will be ready next year after graduation for the working world!



## Students Meet “America’s Living Legends”

By Lisa Reid, Public Affairs Specialist, Jackson Field Office

In early April, I visited some 30 Jones County, Mississippi 3rd graders who had the opportunity to meet “up close” for the first time “living legends”—wild horses from the West.

I talked to the students at Star Reach, the gifted education center for Jones County Schools, about wild horses that lived and roamed freely on the open plains out West. I told them that it was the BLM’s goal to maintain a thriving natural ecological balance on the ranges in the western United States, allowing for healthy herds of wild-free roaming horses and burros on public lands.

Third-grade teacher Jacque Pyatt was teaching a unit on horses at the time, and the children were also reading the book “Misty of Chincoteague.” Ms. Pyatt had taken the children to the Dixie National Rodeo where they saw a booth set up by the BLM detailing the Wild Horse and Burro (WH&B) Program. Seeing this exhibit, Ms. Pyatt invited me to visit her class to talk more about the program. I was even fortunate to be able to promote the Hattiesburg, Mississippi WH&B adoption during the visit.

As an added attraction to my visit with the class, I invited Jackson Field Office volunteer Carol Pownall along with her adopted mustangs, Starbuck (an 11-year old mare) and Smokey (a 9-year old gelding), to join me.

It was so gratifying to share my job with the students. Upon return to my office, I opened an envelope with letters from the students thanking me for coming to visit them and for bringing the horses. They will long remember this day and meeting the horses.



## BLM Seeks Public Input for Federal Land in Arkansas and Louisiana

By Shayne Banks, Public Affairs Specialist, Jackson Field Office

The BLM’s Jackson Field Office held a public meeting August 23 to gather comments on its draft planning analysis for 535 acres of public domain lands in Arkansas and Louisiana. The meeting was held in Marshall, Arkansas, where nearly 100 residents, including the Mayor of Marshall were in attendance.

“We have received a lot of public interest in the proposal. We want to give the public a chance to comment on this draft before a proposed decision is released,” said BLM’s Jackson Field Manager Bruce Dawson.

The draft planning document that is available to the public basically outlines three alternatives for the identified tracts of land, which are: 1) the Custodial Management Concept; 2) the Disposal Alternative; and 3) the Partnership Concept. The preferred alternative is the Partnership Concept, where BLM would actively seek partners, and with their cooperation, develop site-specific implementation plans to identify needed management actions. Transfer to other Federal Agencies or conveyance under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act would be allowed, but only for uses primarily directed to attaining the management objectives. The public comment period ended September 5.



## Welfare-to-Work Program — A Jackson Field Office Success Story!

*By Jeanette McGrew, Administrative Officer, Jackson Field Office*

**T**wo years ago the Jackson Field Office had a vacancy for a Mail/File Clerk. We wanted to fill the position using a more innovative method, so we joined forces with the State of Mississippi's Department of Human Resources, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) to open the door of opportunity for qualified candidates using the Welfare-to-Work Program.

Mississippi's Welfare-to-Work Program was developed to give promising entry-level individuals an opportunity to learn not only a marketable skill, but also good work habits, such as punctuality, attention to duties, ability to follow directions, and dependability. After discussion and approval from Jackson Field Office management, we proceeded to locate candidates who could be given a chance to become self-sufficient and develop new skills in order to provide for their families. The qualifications for unemployed people included a willingness to learn and do routine work, and be involved in some type of training program.

After interviewing several candidates, Dorothy Burnette was selected for the position. She lives in Utica, Mississippi with her 8-year old daughter, Crystal. Dorothy is a graduate of Hinds Community College with an Associate of Arts degree in Early Childhood Education. She has also completed coursework in keyboarding and office procedures through the TANF Program.



(From left to right) Dorothy Burnette and Jeanette McGrew pause for a photo, while working on a General Services Administration supply order using Remote Data Entry.

Photo by Patrice Junius

At BLM, Dorothy shows great aptitude at her job and potential to do more when given the opportunity. She has learned to use the Internet, several computer programs, and also completed several other training courses related to her position. Dorothy has become well known for her smile and the joy she brings each day to her job.

"I really thank God for my job," said Dorothy. I know He is the one who sent me to this job. The people at BLM are a wonderful group of people to work with, and my supervisor, Jeanette McGrew, is a blast and very patient with me."

The Jackson Field Office plans to fill other entry-level positions as they become available with the Welfare-to-Work Program — truly a success!.

## Urban Kids Construct a Prairie Site

*Story and photo by Martha Malik, Public Affairs Specialist, Milwaukee Field Office*

**S**ummer environmental education programming at Milwaukee's Urban Tree House (UTH) site included a prairie project that inspired 15 urban kids. The project was coordinated by UTH site Manager Martha Malik of BLM's Milwaukee Field Office and Milwaukee County's Weed Out Program Director Betty Czarapata.

Youngsters were introduced to native and non-native plant species, and they learned to identify and pull weeds from the newly-planted flower bed at the site.



Kids learn how to prepare grounds for a prairie site using newspapers and grass clippings.





## MANRRS Conference Draws Students to BLM

*By Millie Alam, Student Career Experience Program, Eastern States*

Last spring BLM participated in the 16th annual career fair and training conference for the Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Washington, D.C. BLM-Eastern States took the lead for planning and logistics, and BLM Personnel Specialist Marge Rothenberg from Eastern States in Virginia and Management and Program Analyst Steve Shafran from the National Information Resources Management Center in Colorado, worked together to make the event a successful and productive gathering.

MANRRS aims to increase minority involvement in the areas of agriculture and related sciences by developing partnerships between college students and professionals from academic institutions, Federal Agencies, and industry. This year, 1,200 students from all over the nation attended the conference.

The theme for this year's conference, "MANRRS in the Millenium — Remembering our Past and Embracing



Photo by Cathy Rodine

Eastern States Personnel Specialist Marge Rothenberg (far right) instructs students at the MANRRS Conference on using Quick Hire software when submitting resumes.

our Future" goes hand-in-hand with BLM's mission which is "to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the public lands for use and enjoyment of present and future generations." Many organizations and agencies, like BLM, view this conference as an excellent opportunity for new recruitment and for publicity.

## BLMers Join the Fun at the 2001 Boy Scout Jamboree

*By Ron Fox, Deputy State Director for Support Services, and Peggy Riek, Writer-Editor, Eastern States*

BLM-Eastern States joined resource specialists from several BLM offices to take part in the 15th National Scout Jamboree held from July 23 through August 1, 2001, at Fort A.P. Hill, located in the rolling hills and historical Civil War battlefields near the towns of Fredericksburg and Bowling Green, Virginia. Since 1981, the Jamboree has been held at Fort A.P. Hill every 4 years, and this year over 37,000 participants, both Scouts and leaders, joined in the fun. The theme for the Jamboree was "Strong Values, Strong Leaders, Character Counts."

The Boy Scouts took part in program features such as reflecting on the skills of Scouting, the Boy Scouts' national heritage, physical fitness, environmental conservation, and the true spirit of Scouting. Activities included archery, bikathlon, buckskin games, a confidence course, conservation programs, scuba diving, kayaking, racing shell run, and raft encounters. They also took part in the disabilities-awareness trail and competitive events, had fun at an arts and science fair, and participated in fulfilling some of the requirements for the Environmental Science Merit Badge at BLM's booth on the "Merit Badge Midway."

The BLM booth proved to be an exciting exhibit, both educational and fun, where Scouts and adults learned about a few of the extraordinary resources and programs that exist on our public lands. The location of the merit badge booth on a separate Midway near the Conservation Trail was an outstanding success. Over 113 Boy Scouts attended our classes, and of these, 35 boys finished the merit badge, 102 boys completed some requirements, and 9 boys needed just one more requirement to complete the badge. The BLM exhibit on the Conservation Trail drew crowds to the "Walk on the Wild Side" exhibit. Scouts learned about fire, weed control, archaeology, bicycling safety, as well as ethics for "Treading Lightly" and "Leave No Trace."

Eastern States' participants included Ron Fox and Rich Pfundstein who staffed the Environmental Science Merit Badge booth. Tony Mayfield, Bill Forbes, Annette Cathcart, and Michelle Alvarez also pitched in along with Ron and Rich to help prepare the site on the Conservation Trail.



Environmental Science Merit Badge



## Employee Feature — Sandi Sacher-Newnam, Wild Horse & Burro Specialist

*By Peggy Riek, Writer-Editor, Eastern States*

**S**andi Sacher was born in Wheeling, West Virginia and grew up and attended school in western Maryland near Deep Creek Lake. She moved to the Washington, D.C. area, where she finished high school and attended several local colleges in the evening to continue her education. Sandi began working for the Federal Government in 1966, and was determined to become successful in the working world. Since that time, she has worked as a graphic artist, management analyst, and senior manager.

For over 2 1/2 years, Sandi has managed and is the sole employee of the BLM's Tennessee Project Office in Lebanon, Tennessee, where she now serves as a Wild Horse and Burro (WH&B) Specialist. In this position, Sandi represents the BLM at many local functions, promotes the WH&B Program, and facilitates the adoption of wild horses and burros in Tennessee. Prior to this, she worked as the Eastern States' Lead WH&B Program Manager, Acting Deputy State Director for Business Practices, and Assistant Deputy State Director for Cadastral Survey and General Land Office Records.

Her Federal career took a turn back toward the East when, in 1994, she took on the challenge as Acting Associate State Director for a 2-month stint. In December 1995, Sandi arrived at Eastern States from BLM's Miles City District Office in Montana, leaving behind her position of Associate District Manager. Sandi says her position as Miles City Associate District Manager in Montana is one of her special achievements in her career. Her responsibilities included overseeing an office of 150 employees and such programs as law enforcement, rangeland management, wild land fires and many others including the dedication of Pompeys Pillar National Historic Monument. The position gave her an



**Wild Horse & Burro (WH&B) Specialist  
Sandi Sacher-Newnam.**

opportunity to really learn about BLM's programs and also to help employees and families who were affected by fires.

Sandi is excited about BLM's WH&B Program and having the opportunity to make a difference in saving the "living legends of the West." "I really feel I'm helping the mustangs — promoting the program, working with potential adopters and finding the animals good homes does make a difference. Also, taking back the animals who have been abused and working to find them better homes the second time around is really important. I also want to keep helping the program and animals by continuing to seek out individuals and groups to promote the program here in Tennessee," said Sandi.

Not only has mustangs had Sandi's attention these past few years, but so does her new husband, Ev Newnam, former Eastern States Special Agent in Charge. The couple married about 2 years ago, and now they enjoy living in the countryside of Tennessee. In her free time, Sandi Sacher-Newnam enjoys making jewelry, painting, and doing crafts.

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## Volunteers Help to Staff a Booth for BLM

*Story and photo by Lisa Reid, Public Affairs Specialist, Jackson Field Office*

**D**uring the weekend of July 20, Ron and Carol Pownall, along with two of their adopted mustangs, "Starbuck and Smokey," volunteered their time to help staff a booth at the 1st Annual Southern National Equine Expo, held at the Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricultural Center in Perry, Georgia. The Expo brought in about 30,000 spectators hoping to learn a little more about the equine industry. The Pownall's were also featured on the TV show, "Animal Planet," during the Jackson, Mississippi Wild Horse and Burro Adoption this past December 2000. Pictured are Carol and "Starbuck."



## Summer Student Experiences the Deep South

*Story and photo by Millie Alam, Student Career Employment Program, Eastern States*

“**T**wo roads diverged in the woods. I took the one less traveled, and that has made all the difference,” by Robert Frost, was repeated by a cafeteria full of hungry Piney Woods students who attended the week-long, BLM-sponsored Environmental Education Camp in Mississippi. Before each meal, a camp leader would hold up a poster with a quote about nature for the students to read out loud. It was a simple yet powerful way to start each meal, reflecting on the beauty of nature and our responsibility to respect and maintain the natural world we inhabit.

During the week campers, ages 10 to 17, repeated words of such talents as Frost before gobbling down their corn dogs and peach cobbler. After meals, the campers were off to one of many activities offered at the event which included canoeing down the river, hiking and navigating through the woods using directions from a compass. I could hear the youngsters saying “Miss Milli, look at the tree house we made!”



**Campers at the BLM-sponsored Environmental Education Camp in Mississippi proudly show off their make-shift shelter made of materials from the woods, one of the activities during the week.**

Although my energy was spent by the end of each day and my muscles ached as I climbed my way up to the top bunk, it was all worth it. Camping with the Piney Woods students is an experience I will not soon forget.

## U.S. Coast Guard Changes Command at Jupiter Inlet

*Story and photo by Faye Winters, Wildlife Biologist, Jackson Field Office*



**On July 20, BLM's Jackson Field Manager Bruce Dawson (right) and Wildlife Biologist Faye Winters attended the U.S. Coast Guard's Change of Command Ceremony for Chief Warrant Officer Charles Kemnitz (left) at the Lakeworth Inlet Station in Palm Beach County, Florida.**

**C**hief Warrant Officer (CWO) Chuck Kemnitz, a long-time champion of the collaborative efforts at the Florida's Jupiter Inlet Natural Area and commanding officer of the Lakeworth Inlet Station, was presented with a framed photo of the wetlands created at the site in 2000.

Chuck has been involved in all National Public Lands Day events held at the Jupiter Inlet site. He has been instrumental in providing access across U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) property for heavy equipment needed for habitat improvement projects and campaigned to relinquish natural lands back to BLM. A recent article in the *Jupiter Courier* newspaper states “The BLM is in a position to adequately develop the area for public use that will benefit everybody.”

The Jackson Field Office is grateful to have been involved during Chuck's watch of one of the busiest USCG stations in the nation, and we look forward to working with CWO James Robertson, the new commanding officer at the Lakeworth Inlet Station.





## ES Happenings

**E**astern States' (ES) volunteers Tina and Marshall Jones and their adopted mustang, "Cisco Kid," participated in the Wonderful Outdoor World activities on the Washington, D.C. Mall on June 12. ES' Director Gayle Gordon talked to school children about wild horses in the West, and Interior Secretary Gale Norton was also present at the event, learning more about BLM-Eastern States and the Wild Horse and Burro Program.

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In June, the ES' Jackson Interagency Hotshot Crew was commended by the Regional Director of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (F&WS) for their efforts in storm damage cleanup of the Pond Creek National Wildlife Refuge near West Crossett in Sevier County in southwest Arkansas. The F&WS Regional Director in Atlanta sent a letter expressing both his appreciation and that of the local community for the work and the positive attitude of the crew.

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**Eastern States Mission** — We will continue to play a central role in fostering the acquisition, management and conservation of public lands and their resources spanning the 31 States east of and bordering the Mississippi River.

Major programs include: Cadastral Survey, General Land Office Records, Wild Horse & Burro Adoptions, Energy & Minerals, and Communication.

For more information about our office, please contact us at (703) 440-1713, or visit our Web Site at <http://www.es.blm.gov/>. Editor: M. M. Riek

ES' Cadastral Survey Crews performed dependent resurveys of the Pointe Aux Barques Lighthouse Reservation in Michigan at the request of the Milwaukee Field Office Assistant Field Manager. The crew also performed another dependent resurvey at the request of the National Park Service of a portion of the Boundary of the New River Gorge National River, Raleigh County, in West Virginia. Both surveys were approved on June 25.

In August, Cadastral Survey Chief Steve Douglas met in Minneapolis with the Director and Realty staff of the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Midwest Regional Office. Discussions resulted in a draft Interagency Agreement to re-establish the White Earth Indian Reservation Project Office in Minnesota for Fiscal Year 2002.

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ES' August Internet adoption was a success. The adoption ended August 28, and 36 of the 39 animals were adopted. The highest bid came in at \$540 for a brown yearling filly.

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**OFFICIAL BUSINESS**



*Eastern States — committed to sustaining the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands in the 31 States east of and bordering on the Mississippi River for present and future generations.*

